

and
further retracting the outer sheath proximally to cause radial expansion of
the main body.

158. (New) The method of claim 157 further comprising:
performing an interventional procedure; and
aspirating emboli generated during the interventional procedure into the
lumen of the catheter.

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants have added new claims 149-158. In presenting new claims 149-158, Applicants have copied, with slight modifications to certain claims as pointed out below, claims 1-6 and 16-19 of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0022859 A1, which published on February 21, 2002. Claims 149-153 and 155-158 are identical to claims 1-5 and 16-19, respectively, of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0022859 A1. New dependent claim 154, while not having identical language to claim 6 in U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0022859 A1, corresponds to the same subject matter of dependent claim 6 in that application publication.

Please charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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